

R E P O R T

O F T H E

C O M M I T T E E

T O W H O M T H E

P E T I T I O N

O F T H E

D E P U T I E S

O F T H E

United *Moravian* Churches,

In Behalf of

Themselves and their United Brethren,

W A S R E F E R R E D.



Printed in the Year M D C C X L I X.

REPORT

OF THE

COMMITTEE

TO

PREPARE

46.

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1044.



THEATRE AND THE UNITED KINGDOM

AND THE UNITED KINGDOM

IN THE MIDDLE

R E P O R T
O F T H E
C O M M I T T E E

To whom the Petition of the Deputies
of the United *Moravian* Churches
was referred.

TH E Committee to whom the Petition of *Abraham* Baron of *Gerſdorff*, *Lewis* Baron *Schrauttenbach*, free Lord of *Lindheim*, *David Nitschman* Syndic, *Charles Schackmann*, Baron of *Hermſdorff*, and *Henry Coffart*, Agent, Deputies of the United *Moravian* Churches, in behalf of themselves and their United Brethren, was referred, have, pursuant to the Order of the House, examined the Matter of the ſaid Petition.

I.

To prove that the Petitioners are Deputies of the United *Moravian* Churches, they produced,

No. 1. *An Instrument under the Hand and Seal of Bishop Ludovicus, at this Time Ordinary and Advocate of the Hierarchy called by the Name of the UNITAS FRATRUM, setting*

ting forth, ' That the General Synod of that Church had ap-
 ' pointed the Reverend, Noble, and Worthy *Abraham Baron Gers-*
 ' *dorff*, formerly Privy Counsellor of War to the King of *Po-*
 ' *land*, Elector of *Saxony*, now Civil Senator in the Synod of
 ' the United Brethren, and Deputy in Ordinary, and Deputy
 ' from them to the Protestant Kings; *Lewis Schrauttenbach*, free
 ' Baron of the Town of *Lindheim*, Lord of *Trebus*, &c. &c.
 ' Assessor in the Civil Senate of the Brethren; *David Nitsch-*
 ' *mann*, Syndic of the Church of the Brethren; *Charles Schach-*
 ' *mann*, Lord of *Hermisdorff*, &c. Co-director of the æconomical
 ' Affairs of the Brethren Churches; lastly, *Henry Cossart*,
 ' Agent of the Church, now, and for Two Years past, residing
 ' in *Great Britain*, with full Power, for and in the Name of all
 ' the Congregations of the Brethren of all the Churches, who,
 ' after the Vicissitudes of Three Centuries, are at this Time
 ' united in the *Moravian* Episcopal See, both to return to the
 ' Parliament of *Great Britain* due Thanks for the Assistances
 ' already granted to them; and also to explain, discuss, and
 ' treat of what farther may pertain to the Interest of their
 ' Churches in *English America*.'

To prove that the said Bishop *Ludovicus* is impowered by all
 the Congregations of the United Brethren,

The Petitioners produced,

No. 2. *An Appointment or Vocation of the General Synod,*
given in the Year 1743. to Bishop Ludovicus, in consequence of,

No. 3. *A former Call in the Year 1733.* Translated by
 the Reverend Mr. *Gambold*, who was examined as to the Truth
 of these and all the other Translations; and informed your
 Committee, that this Translation of the Vocation in 1743. is from
 the *German* Copy published by the Authority of the General Sy-
 nod, and produced before your Committee; in which are the
 following Words:

' We set and establish you therefore once more, and now as
 ' before, with good Consideration, in the Name of our God,
 ' to be a fully-impowered Servant, or Advocate, Householder, or
 ' Steward of us, within and without, at Home and Abroad, in
 ' *Christendom*, and among the Heathen. It is also necessary,
 ' that you nominate to us your Successor; therefore you will not
 ' neglect the eventual Designation of such a one.'

This

This is testified at the Bottom, to be in the Name of the Churches, which for 300 Years past have been called the *Brethren*, signed by the several Orders, and witnessed by *Polycarpus Muller, Episcopus Senior*.

They also produced,

No. 4. *The Acceptance of the said Vocation by the said Bishop Ludovicus, in his Answer directed to the Right Rev. Noble, and Rev. the Bishops, Seniors, Deputies, Syndics; also Ordinaries, Adjuncts, and other Clergy of the Evangelic Moravian Church of the Augsburg Confession, and of both the Tropusses of the Unity respectively.*

They also produced,

No. 5. *A Narrative about their Church and Name, signed by Abraham Gerfdorff, Senior Politicus.*

They also produced,

No. 6. *A Declaration out of one of the publick Writings of D. Ernest Jablonsky, Dean of the Chapel of the late King of Prussia, and his Two Predecessors, and President of the Royal Society at Berlin, eldest Bishop of the Unity; setting forth, ' That the Brethrens Church at Herrnhuth is the true Posterity of the Union at Sendomir; and that these Remnants out of Moravia have better succeeded in uniting Protestants of different Persuasions, than all the Endeavours Protestant Princes have made Use of for the procuring such a Union. '*

They also produced,

No. 7. *Two original Letters to Bishop Ludovicus, from the late Bishop Jablonsky; the first Letter declaring, ' That what the old Bohemian Brethren had with great Labour pursued, for more than 150 Years, in regard to the Union of Protestants, had happily been effected at Herrnhuth. '*

No. 8. In the Second Letter Bishop Jablonsky, speaking of the Institutions at Herrnhuth, says, ' He seemed, in reading them through, to have got a Prospect of the antient Apostolical Lives of the primitive Christians; and rejoices to see the old Bohemian and Moravian Discipline now revived at Herrnhuth, and appearing before the Eyes of the World. '

In the same Letter Bishop *Jablonsky* vindicates the Episcopal Succession; setting forth, 'That the Brethren have carefully, and without Interruption, kept their Episcopal Ordination; and that in the great Exile of 1548, a great Colony of the Brethren being come to *Great Poland*, and having settled there many Protestant Congregations, there were also Bishops sent unto them from *Bohemia*; but that they looked upon them as one and the same Church: And that the *Seniors* in *Great Poland* (for so the Bishops were generally called) were for the most Part consecrated in the Synods kept in *Bohemia*; that when his Grandfather *John Amos Comenius* styled himself, in the Dedication of his History of the *Bohemian* and *Moravian* Brethren to *Charles II.* King of *England*, *Reliquiarum Ecclesiae Fratrum Bohemorum Episcopus indignus, solus adhuc superstes*, he understood only the *Bohemian* Branch, which was likely to become extinct in him, although the Branch in *Poland* was at that Time in a flourishing Condition; and that besides this, in the Year 1662. in the Synod at *Milenzin* in *Great Poland*, his Father *Peter Jablonsky*, Son-in-law to old Bishop *Amos*, was consecrated *Bohemian* Bishop in *Spe contra Spem*; that he himself received Episcopal Ordination the 20th *March* 1699. at the Synod at *Lissa* in *Great Poland*, where he went for that Purpose, with the Consent of the then Elector of *Brandenburg Frederick III.*'

He sets forth also, 'That in the Year 1716-17. some Enemies of the Protestant Churches in general took an Opportunity to publish in *England*, even in Print, that the *Bohemian* Brethren had no lawful Bishops; that the Archbishop of *Canterbury* (*Dr. William Wake*) desiring to have the Matter explained to him, he (Bishop *Jablonsky*) did it in a circumstantial Deduction thereof, wherewith his Grace was fully satisfied.' Which Deduction is printed in *Dr. Pfaffius*, Chancellor of the University of *Tubingen*, his Book, *De Successione Episcopali*.

They also produced,

No. 9. *An Extract of an Instrument attested by a Publick Notary, delivered to the High Commission of the King of Poland in 1732. wherein it is declared, 'That these Brethren are the true Offspring of the old Moravian Constitution.'*

To prove which Fact they also produced,
 No. 10. *The Dedication of Bishop Amos's Catechism*; which was dedicated to the Brethren of the very Towns where the Brethren of *Herrnhuth* are come from.

The Deputies then produced,
 No. 11. An attested Copy, by their Register, of a *Conference held at Westminster, between the late Archbishop Potter and their Advocate*: Wherein the late Archbishop declared, 'That the 'Objections against the *Moravian* Church were frivolous: That 'no *Englishman*, who had any Notion of Ecclesiastical History, 'could doubt of their Succession: That, for his Particular, he 'was fully persuaded, that they, with the utmost Hazard, if 'Need were, ought to vindicate and defend the Constitution 'of the *Moravian* Church.'

They farther produced,
 No. 12. *An authentic Copy of a Report from a Committee of the Associates of the late Dr. Bray for propagating Christianity amongst the Negroes, appointed to wait on his Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury*: Wherein his Grace declared, 'That the *Moravian* 'Brethren were an Apostolical and Episcopal Church, not sustaining any Doctrines repugnant to the XXXIX. Articles of 'the Church of England.'

They also produced,
 No. 13. *A Declaration of the Reverend Mr. Boehler*: Setting forth, 'That, in consequence of his Grace's Opinion, he and the 'Rev. Mr. *Schulius* were presented by the said Associates to his 'Grace, as Missionaries of the *Moravian* Church, and employed 'by the said Associates to instruct the Negroes in *South Carolina*.' Which Papers are all hereunto annexed.

They also produced,
 No. 14—19. *Four original Letters of the late King of Prussia, and Two of Bishop Jablonsky, previous to the Consecration of Bishop Ludovicus*: Which set forth, 'That his Majesty himself 'inquired into the Matter; and that it was effected after mature 'Consideration and Examination,' in consequence of a strong Opposition; and that the Right Reverend Bishop *Jablonsky*, the 'Polish Bishop *Sitkovius*, and the *Moravian* Bishop *David Nitschmann*, joined in the Transaction.' *Berlin, May 20th, 1737.*

Which

Which Letter of the King of *Prussia* to the Two Deans of *Berlin*, bearing Date the 9th *May* 1737. is as follows :

‘ Reverend, &c.

‘ I Learned, with Satisfaction, out of your Report concerning the Count *Zinzendorff*, that you found no other Doctrine held by him, but what is taught in the Protestant Church, &c.

‘ *Potsdam*, the 9th *May*.

FREDERICK WILLIAM.’

The Five other Letters are annexed.

They also produced,

No. 20. *The Instrument of Consecration of Bishop Ludovicus* (here annexed), and *the Congratulation of the King of Prussia, and Archbishop of Canterbury*, 1737. which are as followeth :

His Majesty the King of Prussia's Congratulation.

Right Honourable, Dearly-beloved Lord Count,

IT was with Satisfaction I learned, that, according to your Desire, you have been consecrated Bishop of the *Moravian* Brethren, and, tho’ in private, yet in the Presence of some Deputies of the same: That this Transaction may turn out to the Glory of Almighty God, and the Salvation of many Souls, is my Heart’s Desire. I am always

Your very affectionate,

Potsdam, May 21. 1737.

FRED. WILLIAM.

His Grace the Archbishop of *Canterbury*’s Congratulation.

*Viro admodum Reverendo,
Domino Nicolao Ludovico Moraviensi Episcopo,
Joannes Cantuariensis, S. P. D.*

*S*ANCTAM illam, vereque illastrem (quibuscunque forte tenebris jam sit involuta) *Moraviensem Cathedram*, ad quam, favente Divino Numine, plaudente cœlesti choro (id enim dubitare nos haud finit, quam de te concepimus, opinio) nuper es evectus, sincere atque ex intimo corde gratulor: Qui tibi haud sine eximio merito
delatus

delatus honos, ut Ecclesiae salutaris sit, nec tibi tuisve unquam pœnitendus, ardenti prece contendo. Hoc enim fastigio, quo Divina me Providentia, utcunque imparem, constituit, penitus essem indignus, nisi me universo Dei populo pro virili opem ferre semper exhiberem paratum; vos autem præ cæteris amem atque amplectar, qui nec periculis territi, nec aliis quibusvis Satanae πειρασμοῖς seducti, una cum pura primævaque fide primævam etiam Ecclesiae disciplinam constanter adhuc, ut accepimus, tuentes, arctiori nobiscum vinculo conjuncti estis. Precibus me tuis, oro, vicissim adjuves; Coepiscopis autem tuis, totique, cui te Deus præesse voluit, Christiano gregi, salutem nomine meo impertias. Vale!

Dabam Westmonasterii, IV Id. Aug. MDCCXXXVII.

They also produced,

No. 23. *An Address of the Polish Bishop residing at Liffa in Great Poland on the same Subject, subscribed, Christianus Sitkovius, Eccles. Unitatis per Poloniam et Lithuaniam Senior et Episcopus, to Bishop Ludovicus, hereunto annexed.*

They then produced Six Papers, wherein the *Moravian Brethren* are owned to be an Evangelical Church, here annexed; viz.

(1.) *A renewed general Concession of the King of Prussia for the Moravian Hierarchy in all his Majesty's Dominions: Wherein, amongst other Privileges, he grants them to be subject, in Spiritual Matters, to their own Bishops only.*

(2.) *The High Chancellor of Prussia's Opinion sent to the Department for foreign Affairs in 1743. in order to shew, that this Reception of the Brethrens Church was not to be confounded with the general Liberty of Conscience, their Constitution being known to be orthodox.*

No. 26. (3.) *The King of Prussia's Orders to his Minister at the Diet, That he should declare the same to the other Ministers residing there: Whereunto their Confession of Faith is subjoined, which is that of Augsburg.*

No. 27. (4.) *His Prussian Majesty's Letter to Bishop Ludovicus, as the Ordinary of the Brethren, to send in the Lists of their Silesian Parishes, with the Note of the same, remitting the Rescript to the Care of the Civil Magistrate Baron Gersdorff.*

No. 28. (5.) *Receipt of the High Court at Glogau, that the Baron of Gersdorff has delivered the Records above-mentioned.*

No. 29. (6.) *Resolution of the States-General at the Hague, 1743. in pursuance of the Petition of the Moravian Deputies:*

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When their High Mightinesses acknowledged their Constituents provisionally to be an Evangelical Church. To which is joined, *The Memorial of Count Zinzendorff to the States-General*, in order to acquiesce therein, and give up all Satisfaction for foregoing Charges.

They also produced,

No. 30. *Bishop Johannes's full Power*, for the Deputies of the *Moravian Church* to produce in the High Commission and Negotiation in *Saxony*, 1748. (hereunto annexed) of which Commission some Papers are also annexed.

II.

To prove, that the Deputies act not only for the Episcopal Church of the *Unitas Fratrum*, but also in behalf of their *United Brethren* of the Persuasion of *Luther*, *Calvin*, and other Protestant Denominations,

They produced, No. 31. Eleven written Papers to this Purpose, here annexed,

No. 32. (1.) *A Narrative of Dr. John Francis Buddeus to the Elders of Herrnhuth*, 1728.

No. 33. (2.) *A Writing of an Hundred Masters of Arts and Students at Jena*, 1728.

No. 34. (3.) *The Wurtemberg Church's Writing*: Whereby she accedeth and approveth of the Count of *Zinzendorff's* entering into Ecclesiastical State: Also a *Programma of the University of Tubingen*, to the same Effect, 1734.

No. 35. (4.) *Abstract of the Decree of Frederick Augustus King of Poland, Elector of Saxony*, 1737. declaring his Pleasure, that the Congregation at *Herrnhuth*, as long as they continue in the Doctrine of the Unvaried *Augustan* Confession, may be permitted to continue their Regulations and Discipline.

No. 36. (5.) *Decree given by the Bishops of the Brethren to Henry Guerner, Archdean, and Rector of the Metropolitan Church at Copenhagen*, to be President of the Congregation of the *Lutheran Brethren in the Prussian Dominions*, 1747.

No. 37. (6.) *The present King of Denmark's Permission*, 1747.

No. 38. (7.) *An Abstract out of the said Mr. Guerner's Farewel Sermon at the Metropolitan Church at Copenhagen*.

No.

No. 39. (8.) *Decree of the General Synod*, to enable the first *Lutheran* Divine in *Saxony* to be President of the *Lutheran* Congregation in the General Synod, *December 1748*.

No. 40. (9.) *Decree of the Bishops of the United Churches* presented to the first Reformed Divine in the Dominions of the King of *Prussia*, to be the Administrator of the Reformed Tro-
pus of the Brethrens Constitution 1746.

No. 41. (10.) *The present King of Prussia's Consent thereunto*.

No. 42. (11.) *The Rev. Mr. Cochius's Letter of Acceptance of the said Decree to the Advocate of the Brethren and the Synod*, Berlin 1746.

They also produced,

No. 43. *A Copy (hereunto annexed) of the Power given by the General Synod*, September 1. 1748. to some of the Bishops and Directors of the Church, in order to finish several Negotiations subsisting till the 6th of *March 1749*. after which Time they must take Matters, *ad referendum*, to the General Synod.

III.

To prove that the *Moravian* Brethren have settled in his Majesty's Dominions in *America*, and met with Approbation,

No. 44. Mr. *Henry Cossart* produced into the Committee Three Lists of Persons who had already settled in *Pennsylvania*; viz.

One List, dated in February 1748. of the People established by them at Bethlehem, distinguishing the married Men and their Wives, the single Men, the single Women, and Boys and Girls, with their Names, amounting to 395 Persons.

Another List, dated February 1748. of the People established by them at Nazareth, Gnadenhal, and Gnadenhutten, with their Names, amounting to 145 Persons.

Another List, dated August 1748. of the Children in the several Settlements of Frederick's Town, German Town, and Oley, amounting to 122 Persons; from which Settlements a Return of the grown People is not as yet arrived.

And Mr. *Cossart* also produced,

No. 45. *A Certificate from the Customhouse, signed Edmund Horrex, Inspector of the River, dated February last, 'That the Ship Irene from Holland lately cleared out for Philadelphia, with about 150 German Passengers.'*

The

The Number of the Brethren already settled, and going to settle in *Pensylvania*, contained in the said Lists and Certificates, amounts in the Whole to 812 Persons.

And they produced also,

No. 46. *A Letter from the Trustees of Georgia, dated the 27th of September 1737.* in which it is declared, 'That there was a Number of the Brethren settled in that Colony, and that the Trustees approved of their Behaviour; but that the Mob had disturbed them for not carrying Arms, of which they complained to the Trustees;' who sent Orders (as appears by

No. 47. *A Letter from them to Mr. Causton, Magistrate at Savannah, dated the 3d of August 1737.)* 'That Justice should be done them, and they should be exempted from carrying Arms.' But many of them, not being willing to give Uneasiness to others, by availing themselves of that Exemption, withdrew from that Colony.

They also produced,

No. 48. *A Letter from Conrad Weisser, Esq; a Justice of the Peace, and Interpreter to the five Nations, to one of the Brethren in Shekomeko, in 1743.* testifying, 'That he respected them greatly, that they were also beloved and respected by the Indians for their Behaviour amongst them.' As also,

No. 49. *A Letter from Governor Thomas, of Pensylvania:* And,

No. 50. *A Copy of another from the Honourable Mr. Penn, Proprietor of the said Colony, to his Grace the Duke of Newcastle, dated the 30th of April 1747.* And,

No. 51. *From the said Proprietor to Count Zinzendorff, dated the 11th of May 1747.* And,

No. 52. *Another Letter from Lieutenant-General Oglethorpe, to the Lords Commissioners of the Board of Trade and Plantations, dated the 1st of November 1746.* All approving of their Behaviour in the different Parts where they were settled.

No. 53. And the Committee received the following Letter from the Proprietor *Thomas Penn, Esq;* directed to their Chairman; viz.

S I R,

S I R,

‘THE Deputies of the *Moravian* Brethren having desired
‘ me to certify to you the Behaviour of those settled in
‘ *Pensylvania*, I am to inform you, that about Eight Years ago
‘ one of the Brethren purchased a Tract of Land containing Five
‘ thousand Acres, and settled on it, and another Tract, several
‘ Hundred People, who have built Two Towns, made good Im-
‘ provements, and live quietly among their Neighbours.

‘ Above One hundred of these People sailed about Ten Days
‘ since for *Pensylvania*; they appeared healthy, able-bodied
‘ People, and very fit to settle a new Country.

‘ As I apprehend they will make good useful Subjects, I
‘ cannot but wish them all reasonable Encouragement, especially
‘ when I consider their Endeavours to civilize the *Indians*, and
‘ to make them acquainted with Principles of Religion, may

* * * * *

‘ much strengthen the *English* Interest among those People.’

‘ I am, ’ S I R,

Spring-Garden,
February 21, 1748.

Your most obedient Servant,

THOMAS PENN.

Then there was produced,

No. 54. *An Act of Parliament, of the 20th Year of his Majesty
King George II. for extending certain Provisions, &c. to Foreign
Protestants, who conscientiously scruple the taking an Oath*: In the
Preamble of which is recited, ‘ That many of those called the
‘ *Moravian* Brethren are settled in his Majesty’s Colonies in
‘ *America*, and demean themselves there as a sober, quiet, and
‘ industrious People.’

IV.

With Regard to their being numerous,

They produced to the Committee,

No. 55. *A Narrative concerning the Number of the Brethren,
extracted from their Archives, attested by John Frederick Frank,
Register of their Church*: ‘ That the Brethren amount to above
‘ 20,000, not including those under the Age of 14, and also
‘ those who still conceal themselves in *Moravia*, *Bohemia*, the
‘ *Slavonian* Countries, and other Places.

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‘ when I consider their Endeavours to civilize the *Indians*, and
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‘ *Sclavonian* Countries, and other Places.

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‘ But

‘ But it is not from hence only that they hope to establish numerous Colonies, but they send them out in such a manner, and such Proportions, that hitherto they have hardly been missed in the Places from whence they have removed. They are People which deeply abhor the being liable to Alterations from the mere Humours of Superiors, where there are no Laws; which Reason has made many of them withdraw themselves from their own Countries, and leave their Properties, and beautiful and well-situated Places, which they themselves had built, rather than dispute by Course of Law their Claims; and this Temper of Mind makes great Numbers of them choose to remove into those Dominions which are ruled by Law, and where they cannot be molested by the mere Wills of others; and in all Places where they have established themselves, they have made the Liberty of Removal a Preliminary Article.’

V.

As to their being possessed of Substance,

They produced,

No. 56. *A Narrative signed by Abrah. Gersdorff, Senior Politicus*, setting forth, ‘ That altho’ the Substance of the Brethren, with regard to some Countries, is not to be demonstrated, yet it may be guessed at a little by this, That one of them only has about 6000 Subjects in a certain foreign Country; and there are at least 40,000 Acres more of well cultivated Land, belonging to the Possessions of the Brethren, in the same Country.’

‘ For the rest, it appears clearly by the Charge the Advocate has given to the General Deacon’s Office of his Brethren, That the Brethren amongst the States of another Country possess a far greater Extent of Land, worth above a Million of Crowns.

‘ That the Gentlemen living upon their Income in another Country, they alone are worth half a Million of Crowns, exclusive of the Nobility there, and the Corporations, and the rest of the private Persons, Artists, and Farmers: That the Gentlemen of Fortune have engaged themselves in Support of the Congregation-Credit to the Amount of Two Millions of Florins: The Substance of the Merchants is not to be ascertained: That one eminent Family amongst them has, in the Space of Ten Years, not only supported all the outlandish Colonies

‘ Colonies upon its own Charges, and in other respects expended
 ‘ for the Publick many 100,000 Florins, but likewise, within the
 ‘ Space of Six Years, lent upwards of 1,200,000 Florins to some
 ‘ Princes and Lords, not of their Church, who had then Occa-
 ‘ sion for it ; and has also, before the laying down of his Office,
 ‘ which he had administred for 25 Years, assigned for discharging
 ‘ the Debts of the General Oeconomy, a Fund of One Million
 ‘ and a half of Florins, besides expending in publick Buildings
 ‘ and Places more than half a Million.

VI.

As to their being industrious,

No. 57. They produced several Certificates, which they proved
 by their Register, to shew, ‘ That in the Year 1722. they bought
 ‘ a Settlement in *Upper Lusatia* for 30,000 Dollars, which they
 ‘ improved to so great a Degree, that in 1732. it was valued in
 ‘ the publick Register at 70,000, and in 1742. at 100,000 Rix-
 ‘ dollars : That, at a Place in the same Neighbourhood, they
 ‘ improved a Piece of Ground, which 20 Years ago was no better
 ‘ than a mere Waste, into most useful and beautiful Gardens and
 ‘ Meadows : As also, a like Certificate about the considerable
 ‘ Improvements of the Manor of *Ekertshausen* in *Wetteravia*.

‘ And another Certificate to prove, That during the War in
 ‘ *Silesia* the *Moravian* Brethren (who upon Invitation from the
 ‘ King of *Prussia* had newly settled there) did within Three
 ‘ Years build Two fine Villages, and a Suburb to *Newsalze*, one
 ‘ of which was built when the *Prussian* Army lay on one Side,
 ‘ and the *Austrian* Army lay on the other Side of the Building,
 ‘ and both within the Territory of the Proprietor ; which never-
 ‘ theless gave no Interruption to the Work.’

VII.

To shew that they want no pecuniary Assistance,

They referred to the Narrative of *Abraham Gersdorff*, in which
 they made appear, that they are possessed of Substance.

And also produced,

No. 58.

No. 58. *A Letter of the Count of Zinzendorff to the Dowager Princess of Orange* ; which sheweth, ' That, upon their purchasing Lands in her Barony of *Yffelstein*, the Count insisted, ' that no pecuniary Assistance should be given to any of his ' People.'

VIII.

And to prove, that the Brethren should have made larger Settlements in *America*, if earlier supported,

They produced an Account (proved by their Register),

No. 59. *Of the Disbursements which have been made in other Places since the Resolution of Bishop Ludovicus to transfer his Brethren and their Substance into the English Colonies had been frustrated*, amounting to about 200,000 *l.* ' by the Diversion of which ' Sum, that the above-mentioned Nobleman would have converted to the sole Use of settling in the *English* Colonies, the ' said Colonies have been Losers, not to mention the Harm which ' arose to the Whole from the personal Dissipation of the Colonists in different private Settlements.'

Then they produced,

No. 60. *A Letter of the whole Body of the Silesian Menonists to Count Zinzendorff*, dated 1734. And also,

No. 61. *Extract of a Letter to warn the People who design to transplant themselves to America, and to recall those already gone.* And also,

No. 62. *A Memorial of the Count to the Lords Commissioners of Trade and Plantations*, dated the 31st of December 1744. And also,

No. 63. *A Memorial of Abraham Baron Gersdorff*, dated the 7th of May 1745. As also,

No. 64. *Another Memorial from Abraham, Baron of Gersdorff*, dated 20th May 1745. All which are hereunto annexed.

IX. & X.

IX. & X.

To shew that the *Moravian* United Brethren are
an antient Church, univerfally known,

The Deputies produced to your Committee,

No. 65. *Letters Patents of the Patriarch Neophytus of Constantinople, 1740. to all Patriarchs, Metropolitans, and Bishops;* which sheweth the Opinion of the *Greek Church* in their Behalf; and hereunto annexed also,

No. 66. *Two Letters of Samuel Archbishop of Dercon, to the Deputy of the Brethren at Constantinople 1740. relating to the before-mentioned Letters Patents;* and also,

No. 67. *Luther's Testimonials;* and also,

No. 68. *Bucer's Testimonials;* and also,

No. 69. *Testimonials of the Helvetick Divines, Calvinus and Musculus;* and also,

No. 70, 71, 72, 73. *Four original Letters of the late Bishop Jablonsky;* as also,

No. 74. *A List of several antient and modern Authors, who have wrote about their antient and modern History;* which Letters, Testimonials, and Lists, are hereunto annexed.

And to prove, that this antient Church has been known in
England,

They produced the following Papers.

No. 75. *An Abstract out of a Journal of King Edward VI. page 46. setting forth, 'That John a Lasco, a Bishop of the Brethren, was appointed by King Edward VI. to be one of the Commissioners for examining Ecclesiastical Laws.'* And,

No. 76. *A Sermon of Doctor Thomas Bennet;* wherein he considers the Case of the Episcopal Churches in *Poland* and *Prussia.* Preached in Two Churches at *London* and *Southwark,* 1715. And,

No. 77. *A Letter from the late Dr. Watts to a Friend of his in America, 1738.* And,

No. 78. *A Narrative made by a late great Prelate in Russia to the Brethrens Deputy Mr. Arvid Gradin, then at Petersburg.*

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And

And to prove, that *they have also been known in all other Protestant Churches,*

The Deputies produced the following Letters and Accounts from different Countries.

No. 79. *A Letter from the Rev. Mr. Kraft, Rector at Ratishon, testifying, ' That the Confession of Faith of the Church ' at Herrnhuth had been distributed to all the Embassadors, by ' the Secretary of the Duchy of Wurtemberg.*

No. 80. *A Letter from the Governor of the Principality of Gorlitz, to Bishop Ludovicus.*

No. 81. *The Swedish Doctor Alstrin of Wexio's Letter to the Deputy of the Brethren at Petersburg.*

No. 82. *A Letter of the Deputy-Governor of Estland to the Deputy of the Brethren, the Baron of Gerisdorff, 1743.*

No. 83. *Abstract of a Letter of the Divines at Copenhagen, to the Advocate and Directors of the Brethren.*

No. 84. *An Answer of the Divines at Tubingen to the Superintendents of the principal Seminary of the Brethren, 1743.*

No. 85. *An Account of the Visit of the Rector of the University of Geneva, and the then President of the Ministry, paid to the Bishop Ludovicus, when he was there, 1741. in the Name of their Bodies.*

No. 86. *The Testimony given by the Count of Budingen to the Brethren, in the Charter given to the Town of Herrnhag, 1743. Which are hereunto annexed.*

XI.

To prove, that the said Church hath been countenanced by the King and State of *England*, by the King of *Prussia*, and by the *Swedish* and *Dutch* Divines,

The Deputies produced the Twelve following Vouchers.

No. 87. (1.) *His Majesty King Edward the VI's Letters Patents for John a Lasco [a well-known Bishop of the Brethren] July 14. 1550. appointing him Superintendent of the German and other Protestant Congregations from more distant Countries. With*

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*An Extract from Voetius on that Subject. And
An Abstract from Wingerfcii Sclavonia Reformata on the
same.*

No. 88. (2.) *An Account of the distressed Estate of the an-
tient Church the Fraternal Unity, addressed to the Church of Eng-
land---and by his most Excellent Majesty Charles the II^d's special Or-
ders, recommended under the Hands of his Grace William Sancroft,
Lord Archbishop of Canterbury, and Henry Compton, Lord Bishop
of London, to all pious and compassionate Christians:* In which
Address it is set forth, 'That the *Bohemian* Church has been
' free, from her Infancy, for almost Seven hundred Years, from
' the Encroachments of the *Roman* See: Crushed at last by its
' prevailing Power, was sinking apace into Death and Ruin;
' when, being ready to expire, she brought forth a *Benoni*, a Pro-
' geny, which, growing up in the several Parts of *Bohemia*, ani-
' mated and acted by one and the same Spirit, obtained the
' Name of *Unitas Fratrum*, Fraternal Unity---as it appears by
' *Lafitius*, and other Authors.'

' That this Fraternity, the Heiress of the truly antient Faith,
' watered and enriched with the Blood of *Huss* and *Jerom* of
' *Prague*, her famous Martyrs, taking deep Root in *Bohemia*,
' spreads its Boughs as far as *Poland*, renounced the growing Er-
' rors of Popery, and preserved the Succession of Episcopal Or-
' ders.'

' That King *Frederick* of *Bohemia* being routed and dispossessed
' of his Realm, this Church shared in the same Fate.'

' That this Church in *Poland* continued for many Years pro-
' sperous under the Encouragements of several Privileges granted
' and confirmed of diverse Kings and Princes; but not being
' able to contend with the more potent Strength of the *Roman*
' *Catholicks*, she was bereft of her former Protection, languish-
' ing ever since under the Rage and Fury of those who violate
' all Faith.'

' That it was through the Bounty of the *English* Church they
' were formerly saved from a fatal Ruin; but that after so great
' Suffering they have scarce recovered their Spirits; having also
' lost the Assistance of the Secular Power, which for some time
' supported them.'

' That they saved their Lives; but lost their Strength.'

' That they have been deserted by the Great Men, who,
' weary and ashamed of the Cross of Christ, have yielded to the
' *Romish* Allurements.'

' That

‘ That the *Romish* have armed the publick Courts of Judicature to their Destruction ; and without Right and Reason have dragged them to the Tribunals ; where, under the Colour of Justice, their Liberties and Estate, and often their Lives, have fallen a Sacrifice to arbitrary Power.’

‘ That after this Manner some of their most eminent Churches (against ratified and established Privileges by publick Law) have been forced out of their Hands.’

‘ That the Decrees of the Tribunals have struck at once at the Patron and Pastors of them, under the odious Name of *Arianism*, *Blasphemy*, and *Heresy* ; some have been sentenced to be banished, some beheaded, and some to be burnt alive. Given in the Synodal Convention of *Lyssa* in Great Poland the 10th February 1683.’

No. 89. (3.) *Another Account of the Sufferings of the Episcopal Reformed Churches, formerly in Bohemia, now in Great Poland and Polish Prussia; and an Address to the Church of England, by the Encouragement of his Majesty King George the First, and the Solicitation of his Grace William Wake, Archbishop of Canterbury, and Doctor John Robinson, Bishop of London 1715-6.*

No. 90. (4.) *A Letter of the Countess of Lippe Schaumburg to the Deputies of the Moravian Brethren at London, relating to her late Majesty Queen Caroline's Command to bring them into her Presence the 12th July 1728.*

No. 91. (5.) *A second Letter of the same to Count Zinzendorff the 19th November 1728.*

No. 92. (6.) *Prince Charles of Denmark's Answer to Count Zinzendorff, relating to the Moravian Brethren. Wemetofte, the 31st October 1727.*

No. 93. (7.) *A Letter from the King of Prussia to Bishop Jablonsky, relating to the Count's Person and Way.*

No. 94. (8.) *Another from his Prussian Majesty to the Count, relating to the Controversies arisen against him. April 11th, 1738.*

No. 95, 96. (9, 10.) *The present King of Prussia's Two Rescripts to the Government of Neufchatel, in behalf of the Brethren, the 17th March 1742. and the 11th April in the same Year.*

No. 97. (11.) *Testimony of the Swedish Divines at Stralsund, given to Count Zinzendorff, after a publick Conference the 26th of April 1734.*

No. 98. (12.) *A publick Protestation of the Minister Francis de Bruin at Amsterdam, in behalf of the Brethren, against some of his Fellow-Ministers, the 30th of October 1738. and a Decree of the Burgomasters of that City to the same Effect; all hereunto annexed.*

XII.

To prove that the said Church hath been relieved in its perplexed Circumstances, by his late Majesty *George the First,*

The Deputies produced to that Effect,

No. 99. (1.) *His Majesty's Order in Council, March 1715-6. for the Relief of the suffering Episcopal Churches now in Poland, Prussia, Transylvania; which is as followeth:*

At the Court at *St. James's* the 10th of *March 1715.*

P R E S E N T,

The K I N G's most Excellent Majesty,

His Royal Highness the Prince	Earl of <i>Cholmondeley,</i>
of <i>Wales,</i>	Earl of <i>Loudon,</i>
Archbishop of <i>Canterbury,</i>	Earl of <i>Ilay,</i>
Lord Great Chamberlain,	Lord Viscount <i>Townshend,</i>
Lord Privy Seal,	Lord <i>Boyle</i> Earl of <i>Orrery,</i>
Lord Chamberlain,	Lord <i>Charlton,</i>
Duke of <i>Argyll,</i>	Lord <i>Parker,</i> Lord Chief Justice
Duke of <i>Montrose,</i>	of the King's-Bench,
Duke of <i>Roxburgh,</i>	Lord <i>Coningsby,</i>
Duke of <i>Kent,</i>	Mr. Comptroller,
Duke of <i>Kingston,</i>	Mr. Vice-Chamberlain,
Marquis of <i>Annandale,</i>	Mr. Secretary <i>Stanhope,</i>
Earl of <i>Darby,</i>	Mr. Chancellor of the Exche-
Earl of <i>Lincoln,</i>	quer,
Earl of <i>Dorset,</i>	Sir <i>Richard Onslow.</i>
Earl of <i>Manchester,</i>	

' Upon a Representation on this Day made to his Majesty, by
' the most Reverend Father in God *William* Lord Archbishop of
' *Canterbury,* of the deplorable Condition of several Episcopal
' Protestant Churches in *Poland* and *Transylvania,* occasioned by
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‘ the long Continuance of War in those Countries, and other
 ‘ Miseries that have befallen them, his Majesty, in Commiseration
 ‘ of the said poor Sufferers, is graciously pleased, with the Ad-
 ‘ vice of his Privy Council, to order, as it is hereby ordered, That
 ‘ the Lord High Chancellor of *Great Britain* do cause Letters Pa-
 ‘ tents to be prepared, and passed the Great Seal in the usual
 ‘ Manner, for the Collection of the Charity of all well-disposed
 ‘ Persons, for Relief of the said poor Sufferers, throughout *Great*
 ‘ *Britain*, or such Part thereof as their Agents shall desire.’

Attested by WM. SHARP.

Then they produced

His late Majesty's Letters Patents to all Archbishops, Bishops,
&c. in pursuance of the said Order; Part whereof is as follows:

‘ Whereas it has been represented unto Us, as well upon the hum-
 ‘ ble Petition of the Bishops and Clergy of the Reformed Episco-
 ‘ pal Churches first settled in *Bohemia*, and since forced, by the
 ‘ Persecutions of their Enemies, to retire into the *Greater Poland*
 ‘ and *Polish Prussia*, as by the Relation of their Deputies sent hi-
 ‘ ther on Purpose to represent their Sufferings, and the necessi-
 ‘ tous Estate of those Churches, to Us---Wherefore the said poor
 ‘ Sufferers have humbly besought his Majesty to grant them most
 ‘ gracious Letters Patents, Licence, and Protection.’ ---

‘ Unto which their humble Request, We, with the Advice of Our
 ‘ Lords, and others of Our Privy Council, have graciously con-
 ‘ descended, and have ordered Our High Chancellor of *Great*
 ‘ *Britain* to cause Letters Patents to be prepared, and passed under
 ‘ Our Great Seal of *Great Britain*, for the Purpose aforesaid--Know
 ‘ ye therefore, That, of Our Royal Compassion, and Christian Zeal
 ‘ for preserving the Remainder of the said Episcopal Churches in
 ‘ *Great Poland* and *Polish Prussia*, now already reduced from
 ‘ more than Seventy to about Fifteen Congregations, and for re-
 ‘ storing the University and College of *Enyed* in *Transylvania*,
 ‘ so necessary to the Preservation of the Reformed Religion, and
 ‘ Episcopal Churches, in that Country; We have given and
 ‘ granted, and, by these Our Letters Patents under Our Great Seal of
 ‘ *Great Britain*, We do give and grant to their Deputies full Power
 ‘ to receive the Benevolence of Our loving Subjects for the Relief
 ‘ of the said poor suffering Protestants, and for the Preservation of
 ‘ the Protestant Religion in these Countries; and We do in a par-
 ‘ ticular manner hereby recommend it to all and singular the Arch-
 ‘ bishops and Bishops of all the Provinces of *England* and *Wales*,
 ‘ that they, and every of them, give a particular Direction to all
 ‘ the Parsons, Vicars, and Curates, of all and every Parish for the
 ‘ Ad-

‘ Advancement of this so charitable and good Work :---And We
 ‘ do hereby authorize, nominate, and appoint the most Reverend
 ‘ Father in God *William* Lord Archbishop of *Canterbury*, the
 ‘ Right Honourable *William* Lord *Cowper*, Lord High Chancellor
 ‘ of *Great Britain*, the most Reverend Father in God *William* Lord
 ‘ Archbishop of *York*, the Right Reverend Fathers in God *John*
 ‘ Lord Bishop of *London*, *William* Lord Bishop of *Carlisle*, *Wil-*
 ‘ *liam* Lord Bishop of *Sarum*, *Charles* Lord Bishop of *Norwich*,
 ‘ and *George* Lord Bishop of *Bristol*, to be Trustees for the Ad-
 ‘ vancement of the said Charity.’

XIII.

To prove, That the Brethren are a quiet-minded
 People, who desire nothing more than to possess
 Liberty of Conscience, without Restraint,

They referred to a Narrative of Baron *Gersdorff* their *Senior*
Politicus, No. 31. ‘ That when in *Germany*, and in many other Pro-
 ‘ testant Provinces, the Longing after their Ministry, was so great,
 ‘ that several Thousand People were committed to their Care by
 ‘ the proper Guardians of the said Congregations, they carefully
 ‘ avoided the Coalescing of those Protestant Congregations with
 ‘ their Episcopal Constitution.’

They also referred to the Letters Patents of King *Edward* the
 Sixth, ‘ That, because they would not dispute with the *Low*
 ‘ *Dutch*, who got Possession of the Church of *Austin Friars*,
 ‘ they have not claimed their Right to the said Church, which
 ‘ was granted to them by the said King *Edward* the Sixth’ (whose
 Letters Patents are annexed under, No. 87.)

They also produced the following Vouchers to prove how
 they have behaved about the several Commissions they found
 themselves intrusted with these Twenty-five Years past, and on
 the several Occasions, when Multitudes of religious People threw
 themselves, with the utmost Fervency, into their Care ; and how
 they are used to act towards Constitutions already established,
 when it appears to them, that the Privileges to be granted to
 them may prove unfruitful, if not prejudicial, to the present
 Conveniency of those Constitutions.

No.

No. 101. *The Bishops of the Moravian Brethren in America their Protestation against the joining to the Episcopal Church of the Brethren, such as began to separate from the Church of England, delivered to the late Archbishop of Canterbury, by Two of the Deputies of the latter, 19th Nov. 1742.*

No. 102. *An Address of all their Bishops to the late Bishop of London, on account of their Labours among the Heathens, 1743.*

No. 103. *The humble Address of the Brethren in Union with the Moravian Church, delivered to his Majesty King George the Second, on account of the intended Invasion from Dunkirk to favour the late unnatural Rebellion, 27 April, 1744.*

No. 104. *A private Answer of the Count Zinzendorff to the Bishop of London, for the better informing his Lordship about some Charges against the Moravians in a publick Writing, intituled, Observations upon the Conduct and Behaviour of a certain Sect called Methodists, &c.*

No. 105—110. *Five Letters to the Archbishop of Canterbury. And*

An Abstract of another, relating to the Re-union of the separated Brethren to the Church of England.

The Answers of his Grace were re-delivered to him. No Copy taken.

No. 111. *The Declaration delivered to the several Offices of the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury, the Lord Chancellor, the Secretaries of State, and the Master of the Rolls, by his Grace the Duke of Newcastle's Permission.*

To prove the voluntary Removal of the Brethren from the Roman Catholick Countries,

The Petitioners produced,

No. 112. *A Letter of the Count Zinzendorff to the Count of Schrattenbach, Brother to the Cardinal Prince of Olmutz, dated Sternberg in Moravia, August, 1726. in pursuance of a foregoing Conference at Cremfier.*

In regard to the Behaviour of the Brethren towards the Greek Church, the Protestant Political States, and Ecclesiastical Congregations,

The Petitioners produced,

No. 113. *An Abstract of the Account of the Deputation of the Brethren to the Greek Church at Constantinople, in the Year 1740. in order to prevent Misunderstandings on account of the Brethrens*

threns settling in *Wallachia*; and of their Mission among the *Gaubers* in *Persia*.

No. 114. *A thanksgiving Letter of the General Synod to his Majesty the King of Poland, declining the Settling of the Moravian Hierarchy in Saxony, Dec. 1748.*

No. 115. *A Form of the usual Reception in the Care of the Moravian Discipline, for the Space of Two Years, May 1744.*

No. 116. *A Regulation for the Inhabitants of Herrnhuth, when the victorious Prussian Army were there, Marienborn, November 1745.*

No. 117. *A Testimony of the King of Prussia's great Council of State, given to the Moravian Brethren, with a Memorial of the Transaction of the Advocate of the Brethren with the Court of Berlin.*

No. 118. *Testimony of the Royal Commissary in Holstein, 7th Sept. 1739.*

Testimonials of their Behaviour in other Parts of the World.

No. 119. *Testimony of the Dutch Consul at Algiers, in respect to their deceased Missionary there.*

No. 120. *Testimony of the Director of the West-India Company, of their Labour amongst the Negroes in the Carybees, 14th February 1739.*

No. 121. *Testimony in behalf of their Missionary amongst the Hottentotts, in the Year 1739.*

No. 122. *The Governor General of Batavia his Testimony given of the Brethren in Columbo, 9th July 1742.*

No. 123. *A Letter from the Lutheran Minister in Greenland to the Bishop Ludovicus, relating to the Moravian Church there.*

No. 124. *A Letter from a Cabinet-counsellor of King Christian VI. shewing plainly, that the Brethrens Removal from Pilgerruh, a Place which they themselves built, and which to this Day remains their Property, happened out of a mere Condescension.*

Note, The former Inhabitants of that new-built Place became the first Settlers of Bethlehem in Pennsylvania.

XIV. & XV.

To prove the Reasonableness of their Desires for an Exemption from taking Oaths, and bearing Arms.

The Petitioners, being examined, informed your Committee, that the Brethren enjoy these Privileges in all Places where they

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dwell,

dwelling, including the Three Places where those Privileges were disputed with them.

To prove which Assertion they produced the following Documents :

A Letter from the Dean of the Chapel of the late King of Denmark to a Minister of the Brethren, 1741. See the last preceding Number.

No. 125. *The Exemption from taking an Oath granted them by their Noble Mightinesses the States of Utrecht, 1748.*

Besides *the Article in the Silesian Grant hereafter following*, under No. 132. Whereby they have been exempted from bearing Arms, and being pressed or enlisted.

No. 126. *A Rescript of his Majesty the King of Prussia to the same Effect.*

At the same time the Petitioners declared, That those of their People, who scruple the Bearing of Arms, will make no Difficulty to pay, in lieu thereof, the Sum or Sums, which Persons of the same Estate, in the same Province, who, by reason of Age, Sex, or other Disabilities, cannot go to War in Person, are assessed and rated at.

XVI. & XVII.

To prove that the strongest Argument to induce the most useful of their Brethren (meaning Tradesmen, Farmers, and other useful Persons), to go over to *America*, will be the granting them such proper and solid Encouragement as may render their Condition in *America* at least as quiet and peaceable as in the Places where they now reside,

They produced,

No. 127. A List sent by the Directors of the Brethren in *America*, in May 1748. of such Tradesmen, Farmers, and other useful Persons, as were wanted at that time.

Then they produced the following Grants of their modern Settlements.

(No. 128. *The Reasons* they give for producing no more of them are the following; viz.

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The rest of the Brethren live either under such Lords, Members of the *Moravian* Church, who partly are absolutely independent, or were, at least, provided with such eminent Royalties, that they have no Occasion to make any Agreements for themselves, and can grant to the Subjects belonging to their Church whatever they please ; or they dwell upon Estates that have been mortgaged to them ; or they are *Servi*, as in *Upper Lusatia*, on the Borders of *Moravia*, and in the conquered *Russian* Provinces ; in which last Case they comport themselves with the very same Patience, in what concerns this present Life, as their converted Negroes are wont to do, and content themselves with this, that by suffering with the utmost Magnanimity they maintain the Liberty of their Conscience, and enjoy it effectually.)

No. 129. (1.) An Agreement made with the *Bohemian* Brethren about building and settling a Town in *Lusatia*.

No. 130. (2.) An Extract out of the *Agreement* relating to the Mortgage of the Castle of *Marienborn*, and the Estate belonging thereunto.

No. 131. (3.) The King of *Prussia's* Letter to the chief Governments of *Breslau* and *Glogau*, commanding them finally to let the Brethren be undisturbed.

No. 132. (4.) The *Charter* of the Brethrens Settlement in *Silesia*.

No. 133. (5.) The Agreement with the Magistrates of *Neusalze*.

No. 134. (6.) The present King of *Denmark's* *Inlarging* of the former Charters of King *Christian VI.* relating to the Settlement of the Brethren in the *Carybee Islands*.

No. 135. (7.) The Agreement made in respect to an independent Castle in *Germany*: Which are all hereunto annexed.

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